

KETTERING
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR 1900.

KETTERING :

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT
FOR 1900.

To the Kettering Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Annual Report for the past year it gives me great pleasure to say that the health of the town has been most satisfactory, and that the death-rate is slightly lower than the exceptionally low one of last year, while the number of cases of infectious diseases notified is very much diminished.

Calculated in the usual manner the population of Kettering at Midsummer was about 30,000.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
The number of Births in 1900 was	494	446	940
The number of Deaths was ...	199	170	369
This gives a Birth Rate of ...	31·3 in the 1000		
And a Death Rate of ...	12·3 in the 1000		
The Zymotic Death Rate was ...	1·3 in the 1000		

During the last ten years these rates have been as follows :—

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.
1891	38·1	14·6	·3
1892	38·3	16·1	·6
1893	31·3	15·	1·09
1894	34·7	14·9	2·4
1895	36·5	13·5	·7
1896	34·4	14·2	2·3
1897	35·2	13·5	·4
1898	33·8	14·8	1·1
1899	32·5	12·8	1·4
1900	31·3	12·3	1·3
The mean rates for the decade are	35·	14·1	1·1

During the ten years completed by 1900 the deaths from the following diseases have been—

Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Measles.
1	36	14	40	92

Here follow the statistics of illness and death required by the Local Government Board, to which I add a list of the causes of all the deaths during 1900.

TABLE OF BIRTHS and DEATHS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in District.
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1890	20,000	688	34·	116	169	356	17·8	27	...
1891	20,000	761	38·1	105	138·05	291	14·6	29	...
1892	21,000	805	38·3	124	154·03	340	16·1	19	...
1893	22,000	689	31·3	116	169·5	330	15	22	...
1894	23,000	801	34·7	114	142·3	344	14·9	23	...
1895	24,000	876	36·5	120	136·9	325	13·5	30	...
1896	25,000	861	34·4	130	149·5	356	14·2	27	...
1897	26,500	933	35·2	114	122·7	359	13·5	39	...
1898	28,000	948	33·8	153	161·4	417	14·8	48	...
1899	29,000	945	32·5	139	147·6	373	12·8	34	...
Averages for years 1890—99	23,850	830	35.	123	149	349	14·2	29	...
1900	30,000	940	31·3	138	141·1	369	12·3	48	6

*Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	2840	Total population at all ages ...	19,453	At Census of 1891.
		Number of Inhabited Houses ...	3,891	
		Average number of persons per house	5	

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified During the Year 1900.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.								No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up-wards		
Diphtheria	6	...	4	1	...	1	...	1	
Erysipelas	35	1	1	2	8	22	1	...	
Scarlet Fever	250	6	77	136	20	11	...	141	
Enteric Fever	9	...	1	5	2	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever	5	...	...	...	1	4	...	...
Totals	305	7	83	144	31	39	1	142	

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1900.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS.
	All ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up- wards		
Measles	8	1	6	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	5	1	3	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	3	...	...	2	...	1	...	2
Epidemic Influenza	7	...	...	...	...	1	6	...
Diarrhœa	15	14	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Septic Diseases	2	...	..	...	...	1	1	...
Phthisis	31	1	2	2	9	17	...	8	
Other Tubercular Diseases	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	14	...	...	...	...	9	5	3
Bronchitis	29	16	6	1	...	1	5	...	
Pneumonia	15	3	2	1	...	8	1	3	
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Alcoholism ... } Cirrhosis of Liver }	4	...	...	...	...	3	1	...
Premature Birth	22	22	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Heart Diseases	30	1	2	1	3	16	7	5	
Accidents	5	...	2	...	...	2	1	3
Suicides	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	3
All other Causes	156	71	16	1	6	20	42	20	
All causes	369	136	45	10	18	90	70	48	

Apoplexy	...	...	...	15
Meningitis	...	...	..	10
Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	I
Convulsions	...	...	...	15
Epilepsy	...	...	...	I
Laryngitis	...	...	...	I
Bronchitis	...	...	...	29
Pneumonia	...	...	...	15
Influenza	...	...	...	7
Phthisis	...	...	...	3I
Hemoptysis	...	...	...	I
Heart Disease	...	.		30
Liver Diseases	...	...	...	8
Kidney Diseases	...	...	...	5
Bladder Diseases	...	...	...	3
Gastritis	...	...	...	2
Enteritis	...	...	...	5
Peritonitis	...	...	...	I
Tumor	...	...	...	I
Cancer	...	...	...	14
Tuberculosis	...	..	...	I
Hemiplegia	...	...	...	I
Paraplegia	...	...	...	I
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	I
Paralysis	...	...	...	2
Aneurism	...	...	...	I
Diabetes	...	...	...	2
Gangrene	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	5
Scarlatina	...	...	...	2
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	3
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	I
Measles	...	...	...	8
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	2
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	15
Child Birth	...	...	...	2
Premature Birth	...	...	...	22
Congenital Debility	...	...	...	23
Atrophy	...	...	...	3I
Senile Debility	...	...	...	2I
Injuries	...	...	...	9
Dentition	...	...	...	4
Purpura	...	...	...	I
Addison's Disease	...	...	...	I
Locomotor Ataxy	...	...	...	I
Otitis	...	...	...	I
Hip Joint Disease	...	...	...	I
Sunstroke	...	...	...	I
Gout	...	...	...	I
Septicœmia	...	...	...	2
Total				369

In my last year's Report I noticed the exceedingly low death-rate for that year, which was the lowest for ten years. These tables show that both the general and zymotic death-rates are even a little lower still.

Phthisis

The deaths from Phthisis are in excess of those registered last year, but steps have been taken to make use of the knowledge lately acquired with regard to this disease, and to prevent its ravages. As reported last year, a National Society has been established for this purpose, and a Branch formed for this County. Several meetings of the Committee of this Branch have been held. In this District a Veterinary Inspector has been appointed, whose duty will be to inspect the Cowsheds and the Animals supplying the milk to the town. These duties will, it is hoped, be before long increased by his ability to inspect all carcasses of animals slaughtered for food at a common slaughter-house, so that no

Tuberculosis can be conveyed to any inhabitant of the town either by milk or meat. Handbills have been circulated pointing out the infectiousness of this disease, and giving directions not to spit in public places, and begging people to use care in this matter, and either to use spittoons containing a disinfectant or to use rags which can be burned,

Another useful step has been taken, viz., the disinfection of rooms in which persons have died of Phthisis. Your Inspector is at once informed of any death registered from this disease, and before the funeral offers to disinfect the place: this is generally accepted, and the disinfection usually takes place very shortly after the funeral.

I do not think that the time has yet arrived to recommend even voluntary Notification in this neighbourhood. It is satisfactory to find that, probably owing to the better treatment of Phthisis, as well as the greatly improved condition of the Factories and Workshops, although the population of Kettering has so largely increased, the deaths from Phthisis are less than they were formerly. The following are the number of these deaths from this disease since 1890 :—

1890	...	36	1894	...	21	1898	...	31
1891	...	26	1895	...	30	1899	...	23
1892	...	20	1896	...	28	1900	...	31
1893	...	24	1897	...	29			

No doubt when the time arrives for a County Sanatorium to be built for the open-air treatment and isolation of this disease Kettering will not be behindhand in sharing the necessary outlay.

Smallpox and
vaccination.

No case of Smallpox has been notified during the past year, and it is to be earnestly hoped that this immunity will continue.

The number of successful Vaccinations during the year have been very small in comparison with the number of births.

Scarlet Fever

Scarlet Fever has been present in a mild form all through the year, but the cases have been gradually decreasing in number, and the illness seems to have been much kept in check by the free use of the Infectious Hospital.

The number of cases notified in 1890 was 250; the deaths only two.

In 1899 the number of cases was 502, the deaths six.

This year's cases occurred in the following order :—

January	...	46	July	...	...	13
February	...	17	August	...	...	13
March	...	27	September	...	...	25
April	...	19	October...	...	...	20
May	...	16	November	...	...	22
June	...	21	December	...	...	11

Infected houses were disinfected by your Inspector with Formalin Vapour, and this work has entailed a great outlay of time and trouble. The teachers in the different schools have rendered every assistance in informing us of doubtful or suspected cases. Also a list of names of persons suffering from Scarlet Fever was sent to the Librarian of the Public Library to avoid the possibility of infection being conveyed by the books which were lent out.

Diphtheria. Six cases only of Diphtheria have been notified : In January, one in King Street, fatal ; in March, one in Russell Street ; in April, one in Tennyson Road, and one in Buccleuch Street ; in July, one in Fuller Street ; and in October, one in Hawthorn Road, fatal. The case from Russell Street was removed to the Hospital, and recovered. As will be seen, there could hardly have been any connection between any of these cases, and in all instances the means taken to prevent the spread of the disease proved successful.

Typhoid Fever Only nine cases of Typhoid Fever were notified, a most encouraging fact. In March a case occurred in Clarence Road which proved fatal ; in April a man was brought in to the Workhouse Infirmary, and died shortly afterwards ; in May two cases occurred, one in Wyatt Street, and one in Wellington Street ; in June, one case in Alexandra Street ; in July, one case in Connaught Street ; in August, one case in Union Street, one in King Street, the latter apparently caused by a blocked drain : in September, one case in Bath Road. This is the lowest number of Typhoid Fever cases notified since the notification of this disease was adopted, the following being the record :—

1890	...	49	1894	...	38	1898	...	17
1891	...	21	1895	...	25	1899	..	26
1892	...	25	1896	...	23	1900	...	9
1893	...	111	1897	...	11			

The population of the town having increased at least 10,000 during that time.

asles. A large number of cases of Measles, but not of a very severe type, occurred in the later months of the year, causing a great falling off in the attendance at some of the schools. In one school upwards of 150 children were absent, and it was thought desirable to disinfect it; this was done, and apparently with good result. Eight deaths were certified as caused by this disease and its complications.

erperal ver. Unfortunately, five cases of Puerperal Fever have been notified. I fear in some of these cases sufficient care was not exercised as to cleanliness and disinfection by the midwife who took charge of them, and one of the cases seemed to arise from communication with a case of Scarlet Fever. It was not thought desirable to institute a prosecution in any case. Four of these cases proved fatal.

ification infectious cases. Notification of Infectious Diseases has been well carried out, and proved most useful. The following is the record for the past year: Scarlet Fever, 250 cases; Diphtheria, 6; Typhoid Fever, 9; Puerperal Fever, 5; Erysipelas, 35. The intercommunication of Notifications with the Local Government Board and the County Council has been regularly kept up.

ter ply. There has been no scarcity in the Water Supply throughout the year, and the quality has been excellent.

lging uses. There is only one Licensed Lodging House in Kettering, and no fault can be found with the manner in which it is conducted, the proprietor being always ready to give any information to the Sanitary Authority.

itories. Several new Factories have been completed during the past year, and the marked improvement in the health statistics of the

town is doubtless owing to the great improvement in the construction and conduct of these buildings. The increased use of machinery on a large scale has caused the closing of many small workrooms, which were often overcrowded and difficult to supervise.

Joint
Isolation
Hospital.

The Joint Isolation Hospitals of the Urban and Rural Councils have been occupied during the whole of the past year. They are most popular, and their healthy situation is such that a marked improvement is often seen in the cases admitted very soon after their arrival. Out of 180 patients admitted during the year 1900, only one death occurred; this was a very severe case of Typhoid Fever from the country, which died a few hours after arrival. The following are the particulars :—

On January 1st, 1900, 23 cases, all of Scarlet Fever, remained in the Hospital; all of these were discharged cured.

Between January 1st and December 31st, 180 patients were admitted, viz. : Scarlet Fever, 172 cases; Typhoid Fever, 6 cases; Diphtheria, 2 cases.

Of these 142 were from the Urban District, 38 from the Rural District.

163 of these cases were discharged cured.
1 died.

16 cases remained on December 31st.

The Rural cases were from :

Cranford	...	6 Scarlet Fever.
Burton Latimer		2 Scarlet Fever, 3 Typhoid Fever.
Geddington	...	22 Scarlet Fever, 1 Typhoid Fever.
Weldon	...	1 Scarlet Fever, 2 Typhoid Fever.
Pytchley	...	1 case of Diphtheria.

In only one case was there any suspicion of any "return case" from a patient leaving the Hospitals, and great care was always exercised in not discharging the patients while any chance of infection was present.

I believe Miss Lanyon, who still holds the position of Matron, and Nurses Vincent, Kate, and Emily, have given every satisfaction to all who have been in any way connected with the Hospitals.

On several occasions we have been obliged to call in the assistance of extra nurses temporarily, from the great demand made on the use of the Hospitals; and although the expenses have been very considerable, it is generally felt that the money has been well laid out.

Supply. A record has been kept throughout the year of the Milk Supply of every case of infectious disease, but no proof of any case from this cause has been found. Now that a Veterinary Inspector has been appointed for cowsheds, there will be even less chance of the spread of illness through polluted milk than before.

age
ks. The effluent from the Sewage Works has vastly improved under the new system; even a casual look at the state of the brook below the effluent, will convince anyone of the change for the better.

istrict
ses. It is impossible to overrate the good done by the District Nurses; the town is most fortunate in its present staff. There can be no doubt that the death-rate is lowered by their services, and much suffering alleviated.

I suppose the improvements most required in sanitary matters are the establishment of a public Slaughter House and a Refuse Destructor.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. Reader Smith, your Surveyor, and to Mr. Barritt, your Inspector, for the great help they have given me during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. WINTER DRYLAND,

Medical Officer of Health.

KETTERING,

JANUARY, 1901.

REPORT

OF THE

Inspector of Nuisances for 1900.

*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Kettering
Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you the following details of Sanitary Work carried out during the past year :—

- 254 Special House Inspections were made.
- 15 Bath and Sink Waste and Rain-water Pipes were cut off from drains, and made to discharge into channels.
- 96 Blocked Drains affecting 246 houses were cleared.
- 16 New Drain-traps were put in, and 3 old ones re-set.
- 8 Drains were re-laid, and 35 Tippers put in order. 2 New Sink stones were fixed, and 5 repaired. 2 Drains which were under houses, have been diverted.
- 14 Inspection Chambers were constructed, and 2 repaired.
- 8 Badly-paved Yards were newly paved or repaired.
- 55 Old Water Closets and Urinals were cleansed or repaired. 36 were reconstructed, in these 69 New Pans or Pedestals and 38 Traps were fixed.
- 5 New Water Closets were constructed, and water laid on to 84 others.
- 53 Flushing Cisterns were fixed.
- 6 Rain-water Cisterns were cleansed
- 2 Cesspools, 2 Old Closets, and 5 Duckett's arrangements were abolished.
- 1 Nuisance caused by overcrowding, 10 Pig and Fowl Nuisances, and 256 other Nuisances were abated.
- 28 Offensive Accumulations were removed.
- 129 Rooms, Bedding, &c., and 1 School were fumigated.
- 11 Ventilating Pipes were erected on private property.
- 6 Pumps have been repaired, and 1 New one fixed.

Sixty-seven samples of Water were taken for testing, resulting in 38 houses being supplied with the Council's Water, and four Wells being cleansed.

Fifteen Flushings of Water Closets and Side Drains have been carried out on premises where Typhoid Fever had existed.

In Factories and Workshops, 12 Nuisances have been abated, and 2 Water Closets erected.

1 Box of Mackerel and 1 Box of Lemon Soles were found to be unfit for food and were destroyed.

Fourteen persons were prosecuted for using obscene language in the streets. Most of the cases were reported and proved by the Police. One was prosecuted for stone-throwing, 1 for sliding, and 3 for causing obstructions in the streets. The fines imposed, amounted to £5 2s.

Fifty-two persons were fined for allowing their chimneys to be on fire.

Statutory Notices to abate Nuisances were served in 21 cases. Prosecutions were unnecessary.

Twenty-nine visits have been made to public buildings in order to see that the provisions of Section 36 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, were carried into effect.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JOHN BARRITT,

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

